



# Additive Manufacturing

**Special Operations Forces Capability Production at the Point of Need** 



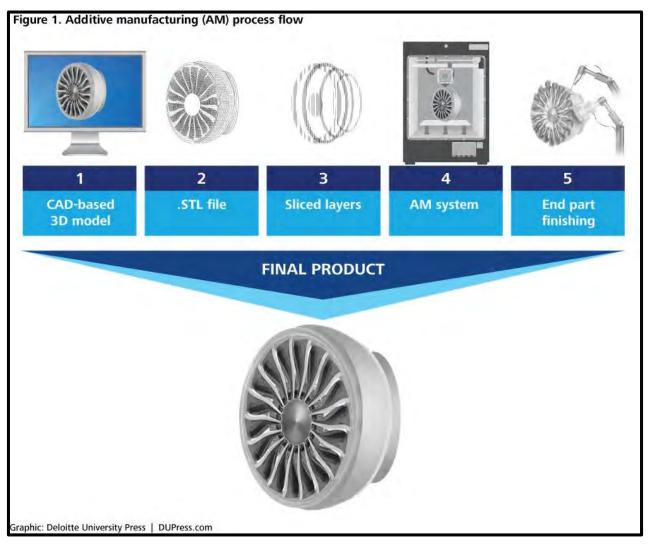
# Agenda

- Additive Manufacturing-Definition
- Benefits
- Challenges
- AM is a Growth Industry
- Non-competitive Collaboration
- AM in DoD
- Future for SOF



## What is Additive Manufacturing

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## **Benefits of AM**

- Improved design options (lattice, truss and cellular design)
- **Design for AM (Part count reduction)** \_
- **Customization** \_
- **AM Production Benefits**



## **Design Options**



http://www.prototypetoday.com/images/index/k2/akec%203 d%20act%20hip%20system%20with%20cfda%20approval.jpg



http://www.fit-america.com/img/products/adme.jpg

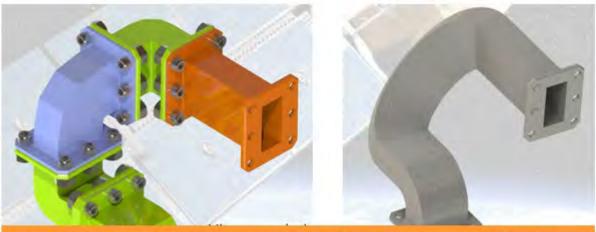


# Design for AM



#### **Removal of joints**

Combining an assembly of parts into a single component, removing interfaces, bonds, gaskets and clamps



### One-piece microwave guide for space application

https://www.renishaw.com/media/img/en/a0923141ed2741c49259b64252tc09t4.png

Generative Design & Additive Manufacturing

8 components into 1 part 40% lighter 20% stronger





## Customization





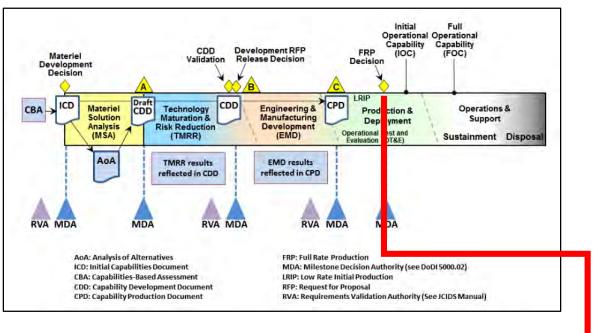
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https://damassets.autodesk.net/content/dam/autodesk/www/solutions/additive-manufacturing/custom-tailored-components-image-thumb-600x300.jpg





## **Traditional Production**

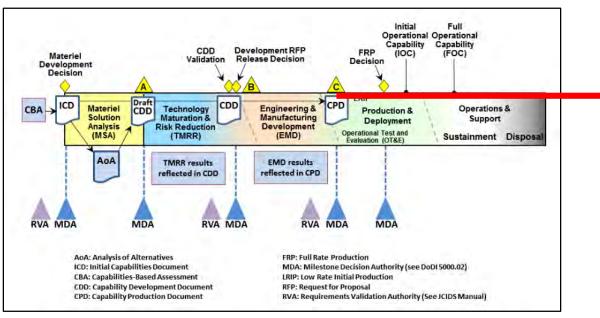








## **AM Production Benefits**



- Distributed production
- Elimination of tooling
- Agile manufacturing and reduced lead time
- Closes gap from developer to consumer
- Inventory Reduction and parts consolidation
- Sustainability and waste reduction







# Successful AM Cases—GE Aviation

- GE used AM part consolidation for CT7 helicopter engine
- Engine redesign resulted in 40% engine made with AM parts
- Consolidated <u>900 parts into 16</u>
- Weight reduction by <u>35%</u>
- <u>Cost reduction</u> 40%
- Combustion chamber inside engine:
- Typically <u>5-6 engineers takes a year</u> to design/test;
- Using AM one engineer redesigned/tested in six months
- Reduced weight by 30%





# Successful AM Cases—GE Aviation

- GE used AM part consolidation for Advanced Turboprop engine
- January 2018 engine new design
- Consolidated <u>855 parts into 12</u>
- Weight reduction by 100 lbs.
- <u>Reduced fuel consumption by 20%</u>
- Gained 10% more power
- Resulted in <u>reduced maintenance</u>, <u>overhead</u> with documentation, inspection, production planning/control
- Reduced assembly line "footprint"





# Challenges of AM

- Operating <u>cost</u>
  - Price of AM machines
  - Cost of build materials
- Machine-to-machine variability
  - Challenge in traditional manufacturing
  - Increased challenge distributed (austere)
- Quality control
- Intellectual property infringement
- Cyber Vulnerabilities
- <u>Culture</u>



# AM is a Growth Industry

- Industry growth continues to grow
  - Last <u>29 years of worldwide revenues</u> AM products/services <u>grew 26.6%</u> each year (excludes company internal investment)
  - <u>2017</u> industry grew <u>21%</u> to <u>\$7.336B</u> worldwide
    - Product-AM systems, upgrades, materials and aftermarket products
    - Services-parts produced by AM service providers, maintenance contracts, training, seminars etc.





## America Makes

- Leading collaborator to innovate and accelerate AM and 3DP to increase our nation's global manufacturing competitiveness
- Public Private Partnership
  - \$65M gov't investment
  - \$68M private sector investment
- Non-competitive collaboration
- Membership from industry, academia, gov't
- In 2017, 200+ member organizations



<u>Created DoD AM Roadmap</u> collaboration with USA, USAF, DON, DLA

https://youtu.be/EWY7x6yGqzQ https://youtu.be/HZk6j9SwGxY





## **Demonstrated Capability Production**

- US Army Manufacturing Technology (<u>ManTech</u>), US Army Research, Development and Engineering Command (<u>RDECOM</u>), and national 3D printing accelerator <u>America Makes</u> printed a grenade launcher
- 6 months
- Two RDECOM R&D centers the US Army Research Lab (ARL) and the US Army Edgewood Chemical and Biological Center (ECBC) participated in <u>manufacturing the munition</u>
- First successfully test fired 3DP weapon

https://3dprint.com/167567/3d-printed-grenade-launcher/



The additively-manufactured RAMBO system includes an NSRDEC-designed standalone kit with printed adjustable buttstock, mounts, grips and other modifications—modifications made possible by the quick turnaround time afforded by 3D printing.



These M781 components were 3D-printed during a six-month collaborative effort that involved RDECOM, ManTech and America Makes, the national accelerator for additive manufacturing and 3D printing. They cost tens of thousands of dollars less than identical components created with standard production methods.



## Current AM in DoD

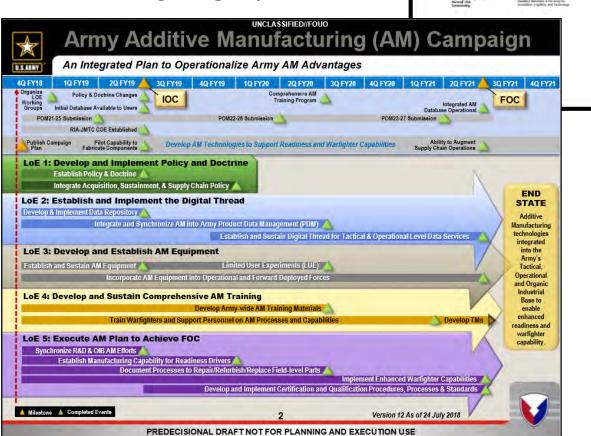
- Supply Chain/Readiness
  - AM Center of Excellence (Rock Island Arsenal)
  - Rapid Fabrication via Additive manufacturing on the Battlefield (R-FAB) / Digital Repository for AM Parts for Tactical & Operational Readiness (RAPTOR)
- Customized service member solutions
  - Rapid Equipping Force (REF) Ex Lab
  - Mobile Technology & Repair Complex (MTRC)

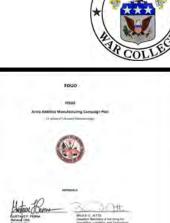


# AM Center of Excellence

AM Campaign Plan was developed under Secretary of the Army and Army Senior leadership guidance to <u>integrate/synchronize Army AM Capabilities</u> and operationalize AM to <u>increase tactical/operational readiness</u> and enhance warfighting capabilities

- LOE 1: Develop and Implement Coordinated <u>Policy</u> and Doctrine for AM
- LOE 2: Develop and Implement the <u>Digital Thread</u> for AM
- LOE 3: Develop and Establish Equipment for AM
- LOE 4: Develop Comprehensive Training to Support AM
- LOE 5: Execution of the AM Plan to Support <u>Tactical</u> and Operational Environments
- Enhance Warfighter Capability
- Increase Tactical and Operational Readiness





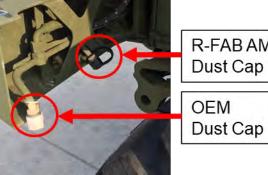
## **Rapid Fabrication via Additive manufacturing** on the Battlefield (R-FAB)

- **R-FAB readiness gains through printing battle** damage assessment repair (BDAR) and **Emergency Repair** parts in the field
- Field print temporary parts wait on OEM parts
- Test bed to integrate and demonstrate evolving AM technologies; database of files; informs AM CoE
  - Print capabilities: Variety of parts from soft rubbers to high strength KEVLAR reinforced Nylon

### **R-FAB**



## **3D Print Examples**



**R-FABAM** Dust Cap









# Digital Repository for AM Parts for Tactical & Operational Readiness (RAPTOR)

- Soldiers entry to Digital Thread
  - Easy-to-use interface <u>linking soldier to part</u> Graphic User Interface (GUI) is intuitive
- Multiple part file search options
- Developed <u>expeditionary applications</u> However, <u>scalable</u> from point-of-need <u>to enterprise</u> <u>deployment</u>
- Provides Soldier to <u>engineering reach back</u> Other RDECs within RDECOM – LCMCs, PMs etc –







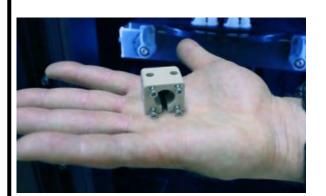
# Rapid Equipping Force Ex Lab

- Started in 2012
- To connect <u>scientists</u>, <u>engineers</u> and <u>Soldier</u> in deployed locations
- <u>3D printing</u> and rapid prototyping
- <u>Sewing</u>, <u>machining</u>, <u>electrical</u>
- Located in Afghanistan
- Has communication <u>reach back to</u> <u>technical SMEs</u>
- Deliver goal: 180 days usually <30 days</li>

## **Expeditionary Capability in Austere Environment**



## **3D Print Examples**









# Mobile Technology & Repair Complex (MTRC)

- Responsive point of need <u>engineering</u> <u>support</u> austere or limited support locations
- <u>2 person team (</u>Engineer/SOF Technician)
- Engineering support
- CAD, <u>3D printing</u>, documentation, <u>risk</u> <u>management</u>
- <u>Welding</u>, <u>machining</u>, <u>carpentry</u> / <u>electrical</u>
- <u>Kydex</u> & <u>Sewing</u>
- Limited / Weapons / Communications maintenance Support

**Expeditionary Capability in Austere Environment** 







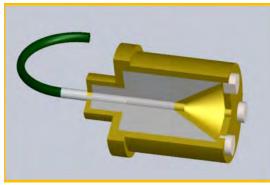
**3D Print Examples** 

## Tourniquet



Screw type junctional tourniquet CAD (L), 3D printed assembly (R)

Shape Charge





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- AM is an evolution in manufacturing—not the revolution yet
- Design for AM has <u>tremendous benefits</u> but still <u>not seeing strong end-item</u> <u>production</u>—GE major success with AM but still rely on traditional manufacture in a controlled environment
- Strong growth and becoming <u>more mainstream technology</u>—cost will continue to drop as tech increases
- DoD is committed
- <u>IP is a large barrier</u> in AM capability development—less in supply chain (can ERO parts) and readiness but still a large issue
- <u>IP policy is a start</u> but needs to be focused on design for AM complete end-item production
  - Collaborative relationships offer compounded benefits for AM
    - Within DoD, Army and non-competitive (ex. America Makes)
- <u>Themes</u> among DoD: <u>Digital thread</u>, <u>technical reach-back</u>, <u>collaboration</u> across industry, <u>design for AM</u>





# Recommendations for Future AM in SOF

- 1. Leverage Army
  - IP Policy update—culture of collaboration/design for AM end-item production
  - AM CoE—supply chain efficiencies/data repository
- 2. Explore partnership with America Makes
  - **Collaboration with consortium of AM SMEs for future options**
  - Explore partnership with AM service provider for low quantity/high complexity builds
- 3. Metals and continuous fiber filament 3D printers are the next evolution from a process/material standpoint—price affordable
- 4. Pursue reach back from remote locations













Korea Operational Assessment Aug 2018 - Aug 2019

Joint Warfighter Assessment 18.1 May 2018

Pacific Pathways 17.3 Aug-Sep 2017

Hanuman Guardian (Thailand)

Expanded workspace using two sided expandable shelter

Upgraded from lab to industrial

Expand on AWA 17 RAPTOR database library of part files

· Orient Shield (Japan)

grade 3D printers

**R-FAB HISTORY** 

#### Army Warfighter Assessment FY17 Oct 2016



Ft Bliss Texas

U.S.ARM

- · One sided expandable shelter
- Four lab graded 3-D Printers utilizing composite material (plastic)
- Basic 3D scanner
- Populate RAPTOR database- digital library storing data files used for fabricating parts

- Hohenfels Germany
- Upgraded 3D scanner
- Added satellite connectivity for expanded "reach back" capability
- Continue to populate and apply lessons learned for the RAPTOR database

- Camp Humphreys Korea
  - Five 3D printers
  - Industrial grade 3D printers with capability to make more robust parts using KEVLAR, Carbon-Fiber infused Nylon, ASA and other high performance polymers
  - RAPTOR database is open for Army use

Future versions to incorporate maturing AM technologies (e.g. cold-spray, metal, circuit boards, energetics, etc)

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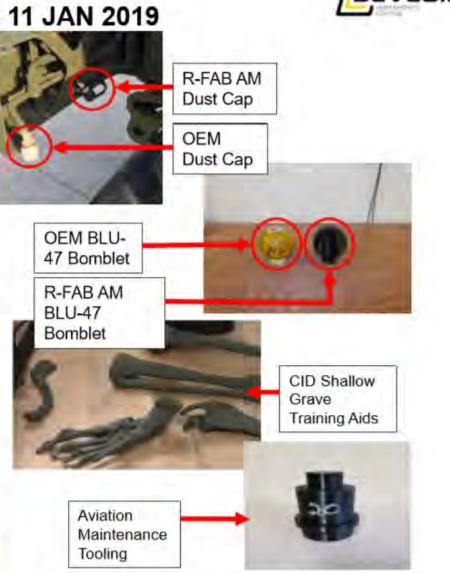
## PARTS PRODUCED IN R-FAB BIG WINS AS OF 11 JAN 2019





- 284 total MRAP Dust Caps 1,472 NMC days saved\*
- 206 Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Training Aids: Enabling continued Soldier training for certification; increasing Soldier readiness
- 4 Crime Investigation Division (CID) Shallow Grave Training Aids - Enabling continued Soldier training for certification; increasing Soldier readiness
- Aviation maintenance shop tooling for the Air Reserve Base (ARB) – 1 produced, tested, and approved; other parts are being requested by this shop as well

\*NMC days are cumulative and calculated based on the time OEM parts were ordered and estimated delivery date of OEM parts



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## PARTS PRODUCED SO FAR IN KOREA OA





- 48 unique parts produced
- 511 total parts produced
- 1,705 NMC days saved



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#### UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY **UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY Screw Type Junctional Tourniquet** Screw Type Junctional Tourniquet MTRC TM I-1 BDSC: Joseph Burkart MTRC TM I-1 BDSC: Joseph Burkart Who: CJSOTF-I What: Screw Type Junctional Tourniquet Where: BDSC When: 28JUN18 Why: Based on the results of the Junctional Tourniquet evaluation, JT#6C was redesigned. Designed an effective field use Junctional Tourniquet, that is easy to install, stays in place during movement, and completely stops blood flow through the artery. An advantage of the Screw Type Junctional Tourniquet is that it allows the medic to easily stop or start blood flow in order to efficiently identify sources of bleeding. Development of an effective Junctional Tourniquet will help save lives of CJSOTF-I personnel. Screw type junctional tourniquet being tightened SOFT-W tourniquets w/ adapter strap Ultrasound showing blood flow (L), no blood flow (R) Engineering Approach Redesigned JT#6C based on initial test comments Curved or 'mushroom' style cap was found to be the most effective at stopping blood flow A detent in the screw and flex-tabs on the curved cap allows the cap to snap into place during install A flex-tab retention method allows the cap to rotate, which prevents the cap from twisting the skin when turning the screw Screw end was curved to use as the contact point in case cap is lost Redesigned tabs to better retain D-ring and SOFT-W buckle Added holes to route 550 cord to lock handle once tightened Added a TXA vial storage to the center of the screw to save space Performed verification testing on screw type and next-gen junctional tourniquets, both were success at stopping blood flow With proper positioning blood flow was stopped without tightening the SOFT-W windlass, if position was slightly off tightening the windlass stopped blood flow Sewed carrying case to fit components Screw type junctional tourniquet CAD (L), 3D printed assembly (R) Screw type junctional tourniquet CAD Screw type junctional tourniquet kit w/ case Provided SOFT-W tourniquet adapter straps and standalone straps Page 1 of 2 Risk Level: Low Page 2 of 2

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#### **MRZR Modifications & COMS Package**

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MTRC Engineers: Nick Sanders, Lance Shirley, Dave Macak, Nathen Storey

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## Who: AFSOC What: MRZR Modification Where: NSWC Crane When: 08NOV17 Why: AFSOC Team required a variety of modifications to their MRZR. A mobile communication package was requested to house various electronics such as computers, phones, and antennas. This package will assist the command element with real-time bi-directional communication capabilities.



Final Configuration after MTRC Modifications



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#### Project Summary

- MTRC Engineers used a variety of the program's capabilities such as: Machining, Fabrication, Welding, CAD Design, and 3D printing.
- The majority of the fabrication work was made from aluminum to conserve weight while still providing necessary strength.
- A weather resistant enclosure was fabricated to house and secure all the COMS equipment and electronics.
- Two fuel can mounts, one spare tire carrier, three radio mounts, a generator platform, a rear seat adapter, and various antenna mounts were all designed, produced and mounted on the MRZR by MTRC Engineers.
   This package was completed in 6 working days.
  - Risk Level: Low



**COMS Equipment Secured in the Enclosure** 



COMS Package in Operational Status



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Enclosure Installed in MRZR-D, with Tailgate Closed



Rear of Enclosure showing Cabling Holes

**Risk Level: Low** 



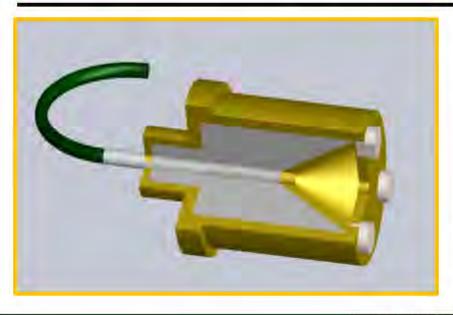
## Shape Charge



Who: ODA What: Unlined Cavity Shape Charge Where: CP Dahlke When: 26 FEB 2015 Why: MTRC 3D printed a 2"unlined Cavity Shape Charge to demonstrate to ODAs stationed on Camp Dahlke the ability of MTRC to assist Detachment Engineers with the production of target specific charges to exact specifications.



Charge placed on DshK using integral magnets Charge defeated 1" hardened steel.



#### Engineering Method

- Using CAD MTRC designed a 2" diameter unlined cavity shape charge.
- Casing with integrated cone are 3D printed using a Makerbot Replicator.
- Three rare earth magnets are epoxied to the base to ensure quick placement on steel targets. Detachment Engineers pack the charge with C4 and seal charge with epoxy.
- End State: Detachment Engineers along with MTRC can design and build target specific charges that are easily scalable.

**Risk Level: Low** 



## Glock 17 9mm Speedloader

#### MTRC TM #E1: Nathen Storey

Who: 1-10 SFG(A) What: Glock 17 Speedloader Where: Stuttgart, Germany When: 4JAN18 Why: 1-10 SFG(A) personnel requested Glock 17 9mm Speedloaders for quicker reloads and less abuse to fingers and gloves.





Designed in Solid Edge CAD Software and 3D Printed

#### **Engineering Approach**

- MTRC Engineer designed the <u>reloader</u> in Solid Edge CAD software.
- They were printed on MTRC's FormLabs Stereolithographic Laser Printer using "Tough" Resin.
- The original variation functioned properly but a few small adjustments were made to increase ease of use and speed up reload time.



Left: Original; Right: New Version





## **Magnetic Antenna Mount**



#### MTRC TM #E1: Nathen Storey

Who: 1-10 SFG(A) What: Magnetic Antenna Mount Where: Stuttgart, Germany When: 14MAR18 Why: 1-10 SFG(A) personnel requested additional magnetic mounts for quick antenna attachment to non-standard, low-vis vehicles.



Designed in CAD and 3D Printed



Left: New design with stronger inset magnet Right: In use on vehicle

#### **Engineering Approach**

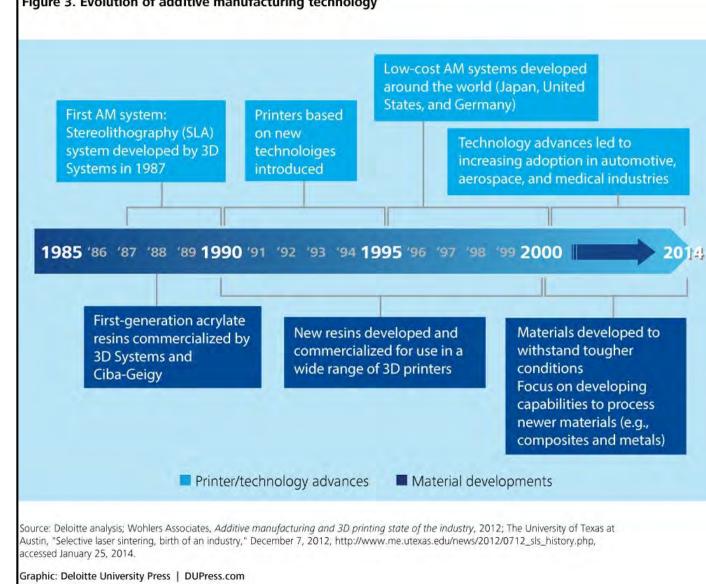
- A 90lb rated magnet was attached to base of the mount to allow for quick and secure attachment to vehicles.
- MTRC Engineer designed the mount to be lighter and lower profile than previous iterations to ensure it would remain secured to the vehicles.
- It was printed with MTRC's FormLabs Stereolithographic 3D Printer using "Tough" material for it's durability and light-weight.

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## Additive Manufacturing History Figure 3. Evolution of additive manufacturing technology

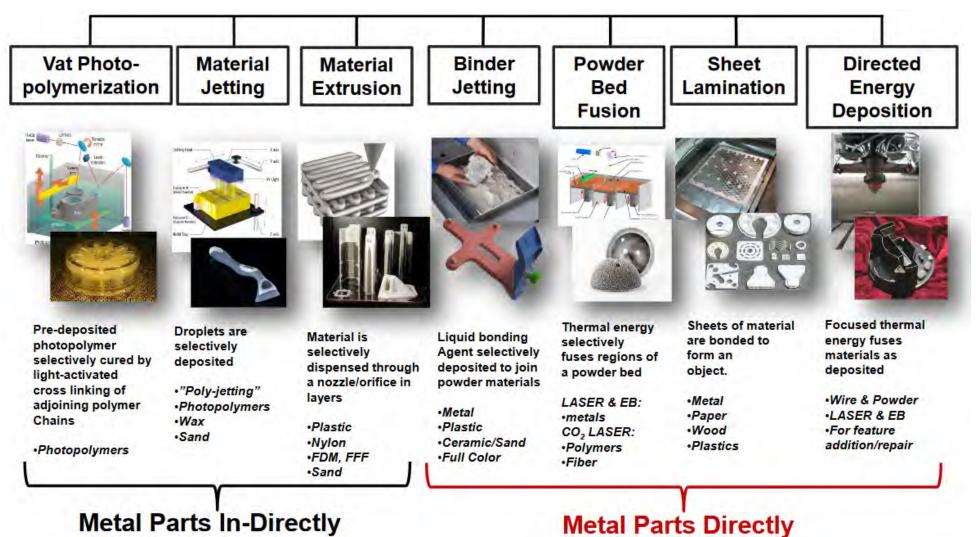
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## Additive Manufacturing Processes

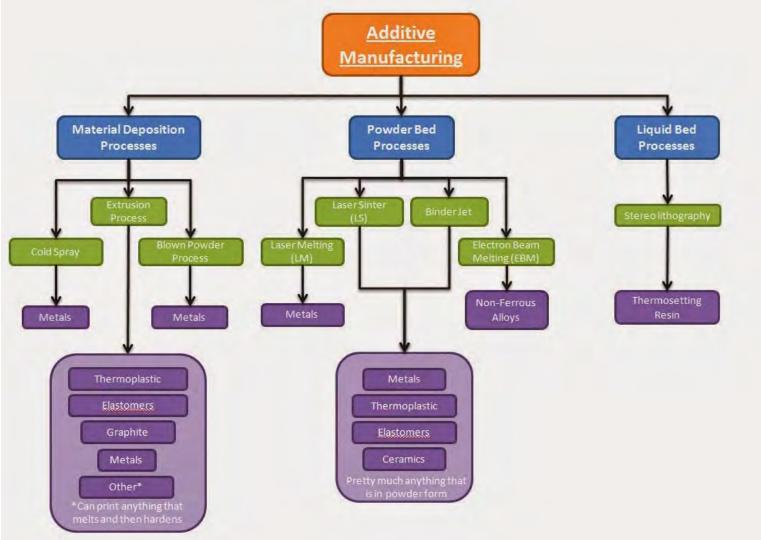


https://insights.globalspec.com/images/assets/447/7447/Seven\_additive\_manufacturing\_processes\_according\_to\_ASTM\_Committee\_F42\_on\_Additive\_Manufacturing\_Source\_Boeing.png



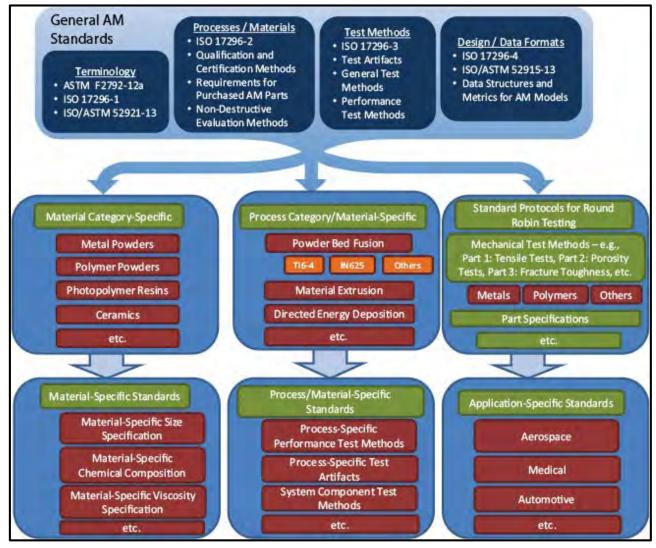


## Additive Manufacturing Materials





## Additive Manufacturing Standards



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